

1-4-1974

## Board of Trustees Ad Hoc Committee January 4, 1974

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 4, 1974  
Bangor, Maine

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

January 23, 1974  
By: Margaret R. Dexter, Clerk

ad hoc committee - Medical Education Planning

PRESENT: Chairman Nils Y. Wessell, (late), Lawrence M. Cutler, John C. Donovan, Stanley J. Evans, Robert R. Masterton and Clerk Margaret R. Dexter. Staff: Robert W. Coon and Stanley L. Freeman.

Dr. Donovan chaired the meeting until Dr. Wessell's arrival.

Discussion centered around the agenda for the luncheon meeting at noon with trustees and administrators of Eastern Maine Medical Center.

It was decided that item one, The relationship between a University with a Health Program and a cooperating hospital would be initiated by Dr. Coon. There was agreement that the second item, An Affirmative Action Plan for the hospital should be met firmly, pointing out the AHEC and other implications. The third item, The participation of regional representation in the governance and planning of Health Education was considered to be beyond the purview of the committee except as a report from the hospital.

Dr. Coon presented his views on the goals of the University of Maine in health education.

Reasons for the University of Maine to get into health field were named by Dr. Coon as:

1. to provide opportunities for health professional education for Maine residents in
  - a. nursing
  - b. allied health
  - c. medical
2. to provide trained, health professionals to the Maine labor pool
3. to play a role in providing better, higher quality health care for all Maine residents.

He stated that in the nursing and allied health fields supply and demand will help to solve the distribution problems. As for physicians, Dr. Coon stated that there are probably already enough medical school slots and cited current problems such as the impact of foreign medical schools, too many doctors in narrow specialties and conversely too few doctors in primary care. He named physician partnerships, group practice and newly enacted health maintenance organization legislation as having a major potential impact for Maine in health care delivery and medical education.

He stated that some medical schools have expanded beyond their capabilities and the accrediting group will ask some to cut their enrollments. Medical education has become ridiculously expensive because too many things are included as medical education expense according to Dr. Coon. He also deplored the capital investment for new medical schools. Full time medical educators are the trend now, Dr. Coon reported.

Dr. Coon expressed the view that of the many planning and advisory groups for health education in Maine the University is best situated to set the priorities.

Allied Health and Nursing. Dr. Coon said that the University has some problems with allied health and nursing. Two are articulation and tenuous federal funding. He stated that new programs should be weighed for vocational and educational components and the University should have only those with special and general education components.

Continuing Education. Although he termed it practically impossible for nursing and allied health persons Dr. Coon said he feels that the professionals should pay for most of the cost of continuing education. He also feels the University should become more involved in these fields.

Graduate Education. He stated the need for graduate education which might include PhD in speech pathology and clinical psychology and a graduate program in nursing.

Under graduate Education. Undergraduate professional education and general undergraduate health education programs were cited as needs by Dr. Coon. He questioned whether Student Health Services were just a service or potentially also an educational component.

#### Luncheon.

Dr. Wessell reconvened the meeting.

The different levels of relationships under the umbrella of the University were discussed such as Portland Gorham's relationship to Maine Medical Center and Orono Bangor's relationship to Eastern Maine Medical Center.

Dr. Coon was asked to continue his report on the goals of the University of Maine in the health field.

Veterans Administration. The big unknown for the University in health care is the future role of the Veterans Administration, according to Dr. Coon. The VA change in mission now includes education as well as medical services.

In discussing the potential role of the VA in funding medical schools Dr. Coon pointed out that most medical school Deans who have dealt with VA hospitals are negative about it. Dr. Coon added that the VA has a lot to offer in health care in general.

Traditional Medical School. Dr. Coon stated that he thinks a traditional medical school is inappropriate for Maine. He also said that a two year school with a basic science faculty would be inappropriate for Maine.

January 4, 1974

Clinical Programs. Dr. Coon indicated his preference would be for students enrolled in the University of Maine to take their first two years at medical schools such as Tufts, University of Vermont and Dartmouth Medical School for basic science. Then students would come to Maine hospitals for their clinical program.

Timing. Accreditation would be doubtful before 1975. Dr. Coon sees little chance of admitting students until September, 1976.

Cost. Should the University qualify for VA funding, Dr. Coon stated that for the first few years the legislative appropriation would remain at approximately \$100,000 to \$200,000. In five to seven years, he said it would increase to 2 to 3 million a year.

Attracting Physicians to Maine. Dr. Coon pointed out that the average Maine physician is older. In the next ten years the last of the Bowdoin trained physicians will be retiring and replacements will be needed for them. It was pointed out that physicians tend to practice in the state in which they are trained.

Applications. It was decided that the applications to the Veterans Administration and for accreditation would be prepared and submitted to the Board, with the understanding that the basic science education would be contracted with existing medical schools.

Nursing. Problems with Baccalaureate nursing programs and Associate degree nursing programs will be looked into in the near future.

Budget. The Governor did not separate the medical education money from the University's Part II appropriation request. It was agreed that if the legislature does not appropriate \$100,000 for medical education, no money will be taken from the E and G budget.

Student Health Services. Mr. Masterton questioned the advisability of updating and monitoring progress on the Report on Student Health Services by Dr. Patrick Gray. Student Affairs will discuss the Health Services Report.

Adjournment.

Margaret R. Dexter  
Clerk, Board of Trustees